

FORGED NOTES  
OVER MILLIONFurther Sensation Was Sprung  
In So. Framingham

## BY EXPERT ACCOUNTANT

He Announced To-day, After Examining  
Books of Defaulting Town Treasurer,  
That \$200,000 Is Still  
Outstanding.

South Framingham, Mass., Jan. 25.—There was consternation here to-day, when Harvey S. Chase, the expert accountant who has been examining the books of the defaulting town treasurer, John B. Lombard, announced that he had found forged notes in all amounting to \$1,196,000. Of this amount, \$350,000 is still outstanding, while the remainder has been paid or renewed. A town meeting will be held this evening, at which time the condition of the town will be revealed.

Former Treasurer Lombard and Charles S. Cummings, the Boston broker, who are alleged to have uttered the forged notes, will be placed on trial in Boston to-morrow.

## CHERRY MINE UNSEALED MONDAY.

Fire Still Burning There, but Experts  
Will Enter to Recover 210 Bodies.

Chicago, Jan. 25.—Following the appropriation of \$100,000, for widows and orphans of the Cherry mine disaster, it was announced to-day that the sealed mine will be opened Monday to recover the 210 bodies of the victims. The fire is still burning, but it is believed that experts may enter.

GIRL'S BODY FOUND  
AT HAMPTON, N. H.Miss Lena Cavanaugh Victim of Drown-  
ing and Merle Flanders' Body Was  
Not Found.

Hampton, N. H., Jan. 25.—The body of Miss Lena Cavanaugh, who was drowned here on Monday in company with Merle Flanders, in Taylor's river, came ashore yesterday almost in front of the Sea View hotel. The body of young Flanders had not been found.

Miss Cavanaugh, who was a native of Canada, 20 years old, had been in this country about two years. She worked for a time in the family of Jacob Myers, a Boston jeweler.

She spent last summer at the home of Flanders, father of the young man who was drowned with her, and she had been working hereabouts ever since, making her home with the Flanders much of the time.

The Flanders know nothing of her relatives or other connections, save that her parents are believed to live in Canada, and she has a sister somewhere in New Jersey.

Young Flanders and Miss Cavanaugh started to go boating in the river on Monday and that was the last seen of them alive. It is believed that in order to reach the boat, which was on the other side of the river, they got onto a cake of ice and undertook to paddle across the river with the cake belonging to the boat; that the ice, however, broke up and much softened by thawing, broke up in the middle of the river and sank their death.

The elder Flanders, father of the young man who was drowned, has a farm here and takes summer boarders.

## IN INTEREST OF Y. M. C. A.

Efforts Being Made to Organize One at  
Springfield.

Springfield, Jan. 25.—The committee appointed with the Windsor county Young Men's Christian association to awaken interest in organizing a Y. M. C. A. in Springfield is actively occupied just now. The committee consists of Messrs. Lockwood, Lowell, Lawrence, Young and Billings. A man was selected to represent each church and two to represent outside organizations.

A large number of the young men are interested in the movement, and subscriptions have been given. The annual field meet of the county association will be held here in the spring, at which time plans for furthering the work will be considered.

## LAWRENCE STRIKE OFF.

Atlantic Cotton Mills Adjust Differences  
With Employees.

Lawrence, Mass., Jan. 25.—Differences between the management and employees of the Atlantic Cotton Mills in this city, which resulted in a strike of about 350 spinners, doers, weavers and loom fixers, were adjusted last yesterday.

Agent Summersby, after a conference with a committee of the strikers, announced that while the company had not granted the 10 per cent. wage increase demanded, a satisfactory agreement had been reached and the men would return to work to-day. He declined to make public the details of the agreement.

## 20 POUNDS TO DRAW.

Swimmers and Uphole Fought at Syd-  
ney To-day.

Sydney, Australia, Jan. 25.—Johnny Swimmer, the English lightweight, and Randolph Uphole fought a twenty-round draw here to-day.

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS  
BEING WIPED OUTWestern Europe Continues in Grip of  
Severe Storm, Coast of Italy Is  
Strewn with Wrecks. Great  
Death Lists in Northern  
Germany.

London, Jan. 25.—The entire district of western Europe is in the grip of a severe storm. Blizzards, floods and hurricanes are causing a loss of millions of dollars, with a great sacrifice of life. The storm extends from the British Isles to southern Italy. Water and land communication is badly crippled, while the coast of Italy is strewn with wrecks. Avalanches in the Alps and northern part of Germany have blocked the mountain passes, isolating many towns, from which an alarming report of an immense death list is expected. It is estimated that one-third of the territory of France and Spain is flooded.

Paris, Jan. 25.—Paris hopes for a change in the weather to relieve the terrible flood situation were met by a heavy snowfall, which melted as it fell and no prospects of better conditions are held out. Soup and bread lines are forming in the city and the situation is so appalling that no estimate of the damage can be attempted. Roughly estimated, 50,000 men are out of employment and 200,000 homes are flooded. Not a factory along the Seine, which is the greatest commercial artery in France, is in operation. The damage along the river has already amounted to millions and there is every indication that there will be a tremendous additional loss. Practically every soldier in this part of France is on flood duty.

FOOT AMPUTATED  
AFTER BEING CRUSHEDA. C. S. Raymond Meets with Serious  
Railroad Track Accident at  
Charlestown, N. H.

Charlestown, N. H., Jan. 25.—A. C. S. Raymond, treasurer of the Superior Tap company, which lately removed its plant from Springfield, Vt., to this place, was the victim of a serious and painful accident yesterday afternoon when one leg and foot were crushed under the wheels of a freight train in a local yard.

Mr. Raymond left his home in Springfield on the electric car line early in the afternoon and arriving at Charlestown started to cross that railroad track to his place of business. A freight train was standing on the crossing and he climbed between the cars, stepping on the coupling. As he did so, however, one of the trainmen, failing to notice him, gave the signal to the engineer to back up, and as the train started, Mr. Raymond slipped to the ground, his foot landing on the rail. The wheel passed over it, crushing it terribly, but the station agent, who saw the whole affair, signalled the engineer to go ahead, and he was released, the injured man falling into the arms of the agent. He was immediately taken to the Swan Hotel, where physicians were summoned and his foot and part of the leg were amputated.

SENATE DISCUSSING  
POSTAL SAVINGS BANKThree Bills Much Alike Will be Com-  
bined.—An Outline of the Main  
Points under Considera-  
tion.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 25.—The Senate committee on post offices to-day took up the problem of postal savings banks. Three bills before them, which are very much alike, will be combined. The main points under consideration, which the committee will endorse, are that postal savings banks shall be under the direction of the secretary of the treasury, the postmaster general and the attorney general; children over ten, married women and any man may open an account; deposits received of one dollar or more, not more than \$100 for a single account in any one month and no account to exceed \$500; the interest rate shall be two per cent.; the government may deposit the funds in district banks or invest them in government securities; the reserve fund must be ten per cent. of the total deposits; the deposits must be over ready for use; the fourth-class postmaster shall receive additional compensation for transacting the business; an appropriation of \$100,000 to establish the system.

PROBING COMMENCED  
BY ADMINISTRATIONGlavin Was the First Witness in Bal-  
linger-Pinchot Investigation Be-  
fore Congressional Com-  
mittee.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 25.—With L. R. Glavin as the first witness, the administration probe of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy opened to-day before a joint Senate and House committee, composed of Senators Nelson, Flint, Sutherland, Root, Paynter, Fletcher and Representatives McCall, Olmsted, Danby, Madison, James and Graham. Messrs. Ballinger, Pinchot, Frye and Shaw are expected to follow Glavin on the stand. The crowd overflowed the hall in the Senate building, where the hearing was held. Scores of witnesses will be examined and the committee, or part of it, is likely to visit the West and Alaska during the summer, so the report is not expected before the next session of Congress.

CRAFTSBURY  
MAN ROBBEDGeorge W. Simpson Went to  
Boston to Buy Horses

## GOT CHUMMY WITH HUBITE

When He Woke up He Found His \$300  
Gone, So He Told the Police, Who  
Then Went and Arrested Frank  
G. Cook.

Boston, Jan. 25.—George W. Simpson arrived in Boston yesterday morning from East Craftsbury, Vt., armed with a bank roll of \$300 and a burning desire to purchase horses for his farm lands. Last night Simpson was lonely in his room at the Crawford House and his \$300 was gone.

But Frank G. Cook, 51 years old, of 7 Charles street, West End, was more lonely, languishing in a police cell in the court square station, where he was held charged with stealing Simpson's \$300.

Simpson went to a cafe and met Cook, he charged, and they became good friends and drank and dined together. Just before noon yesterday, Simpson invited Cook to visit him in his room, and Cook did so and they had a lively time. Both went to sleep, and when Simpson awakened in the early afternoon his friend, Cook, was gone, so Simpson went to the Court-square police station to tell Special Officer Michael Burke of his loss.

Burke knows wonderful things about the West End, so he sought Cook, found him at his home and arrested him. Cook had \$107 with him, and because that is a lot of money for him Special Officer Burke confiscated it and held it as evidence. Cook was identified as the man who was so friendly with Simpson and he declined to tell where he obtained the \$107.

ROOSEVELT MENTIONED  
IN LIBEL SUITIndictment Quashed by Judge Hough  
After Hot Argument Between Ni-  
coll and District Attorney  
Wise.

New York, Jan. 25.—Delany Nicoll injected the personality of Roosevelt into the World libel suit before Judge Hough to-day. He read a special message to Congress in which he accused Roosevelt as the one who inspired the prosecution. "It doesn't make a particle of difference," said Hough, "who inspired the proceedings, so long as the facts are as alleged. The fact that Roosevelt was interested has no bearing." Nicoll then moved that the indictment be quashed, on the ground of the cost to the jurisdiction, and after a hot argument between Nicoll and District Attorney Wise, Judge Hough granted the motion and quashed the indictment.

## WOMEN SAVED FROM ROOF.

Several Persons Taken from Windows  
at \$30,000 Fire in Bangor.

Bangor, Me., Jan. 25.—Three women were rescued from the roof of the four-story building occupied principally by the J. C. White company, which was a fire that caused \$20,000 damage and imperiled several occupants of the upper floors.

A number of people, having offices and rooms over the store, trooped their way to safety down the stairways, through the smoke. Some were taken from the windows, and three women were saved from the roof.

The blaze started in the basement of the dry goods store, which is owned by Mrs. Susan E. White, upon whom falls the bulk of the loss. The building, which is owned by F. W. Mill, was slightly damaged. All losses are covered by insurance.

## GIRL CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Sophie Kritchman's Trial Is Begun at  
Waterbury, Conn.

Waterbury, Conn., Jan. 25.—Charged with the murder of Benjamin Kulvinickas at Union City, about the middle of last September, Sophie Kritchman, a young and accomplished Lithuanian music teacher of that place, was put on trial in the superior court here yesterday.

Kulvinickas was found lying in some bushes on a wooded tract with his throat cut and several bullet wounds in his body. He died soon after being removed to a hospital in this city.

Joe Mitchell of Waterbury is accused with the young woman of the crime, and his trial will come after that of the music teacher. Miss Kritchman pleaded not guilty and the work of selecting a jury was begun.

## FAINTING BOY FALLS IN POOL.

Captain of Exeter '09 Ball Team in Cri-  
tical Condition at Providence.

Providence, R. I., Jan. 25.—As a result of falling in a faint into the gymnasium swimming pool, Harold A. Baines of Exeter, N. Y., captain and pitcher on the Exeter baseball team last year and now a freshman at Brown university, lies in a dangerous condition at the Rhode Island hospital.

MONEY COLLECTOR  
PLACED UNDER ARRESTCharged That He Obtained Money Un-  
der False Pretenses in South-  
ern Part of Ver-  
mont.

Brattleboro, Jan. 25.—John Lecker, alias J. J. Looker, was taken to the county jail yesterday from the town of Wilmington, charged with obtaining money under false pretenses.

Looker, a young man of fine appearance, has been journeying through the smaller towns about Windham county for the past few months, claiming to be a representative of a large New York real estate firm. According to his representation his firm was soon to get out an attractive pamphlet advertising the value of southern Vermont farms as homes. He put up a fine tale, but the conditions attached to an advertisement inserted in the book were that the farmer was to pay him anywhere from \$5 to \$10 to cover the cost of the advertisement, this money to be refunded on June 1, providing he did not find a purchaser for the farm.

In this manner he collected about \$40 a day, and when arrested in Wilmington Saturday, he had worked the towns of Guilford, Brattleboro, Newfane, South Newfane, Townshend, Jamaica, South Newfane and Wilmington. J. E. Smith, proprietor of the Newfane Inn, became suspicious of Lecker last week and wrote to attorneys in New York asking that the firm be looked up, and gave Lecker's bank references as a means of accomplishing that end. Nothing was found out about him, however, and the authorities of Wilmington were notified.

On complaint of Grand Juror F. A. Jewell, Lecker was arrested by Constable L. W. Boyd and was brought before Justice J. H. Kiddier Monday in Wilmington. He entered a plea of not guilty, but because was found and he was bound over to the April term of the county court in bonds of \$200. He offered bail, but owing to the numerous complaints it was refused.

PROMINENT VERMONT  
DIES IN BOSTONGeorge William Crampton Who Had  
Gone There from Northern Ver-  
mont to Spend the Win-  
ter.

Boston, Jan. 25.—George William Crampton, well-known in commercial circles of this city and in Vermont, died last evening at a private hospital on Newbury street, from a general breakdown and hardening of the arteries.

He was born in Highgate, Vt., July 27, 1831, and in early life came to Massachusetts, residing for a time at Acton and afterwards in Boston.

He became a member of the firm of Homer, Crampton & Hammond, dealers in hay and grain. About 20 years ago he removed to St. Albans, Vt., and had large farming interests in that vicinity. He was in Boston temporarily for the winter. Mr. Crampton leaves a wife and four children, Susan C. Crampton of Taos, Wash., Mrs. A. W. Foote and Mrs. Allen Goodspeed of St. Albans, Vt., and Arthur Crampton of this city.

The funeral arrangements have not yet been made, but the interment will probably be at Acton.

## THREE DAYS' CARNIVAL.

By St. Johnsbury Knights of Columbus  
Started Last Night.

St. Johnsbury, Jan. 25.—One of the most brilliant functions ever given in St. Johnsbury was the hall last evening in Bertrand's hall, opening the grand carnival, which the St. Johnsbury Knights of Columbus is holding this week. Every detail was carefully arranged and looked after by competent committees, and the 600 guests entertained by the gallant knights pronounced them ideal hosts. The hall was gallantly decorated in the national colors, with the orchestra platform screened by huge palms. Madam Brock's orchestra of seven pieces of St. Johnsbury furnished excellent music for dancing, and assisted by the Women's Choral club of St. Johnsbury gave a delightful concert preceding the ball.

The carnival will continue Thursday and Friday evening with a variety of entertainment. Thursday evening the poddlers' parade will be given by a large cast, and Friday evening an old maid's tea party will be the attraction. Both evenings performances will conclude with dancing. The carnival committee is made up of Dr. Walsh, Mr. Cosgrove and Mr. Reed, and other leading knights. Representatives of councils in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and principal cities and towns of Vermont are present for the three days' affair.

Shuridan council is one of the leading councils in New England, and its growth in the past two years has been very rapid. This is the largest social affair yet attempted by the order, and general satisfaction is felt over its success.

## INJURED BY FALL.

William Lancer, Station Agent at Bol-  
ton, Hurt.

Waterbury, Jan. 25.—William Lancer, station agent at Bolton, whose home is in West Bolton, was brought here yesterday noon for treatment by Supt. D. D. Groat, who is surgeon for the C. V. railroad. Mr. Lancer slipped on the ice and injured about the knee which has not been well for a long time. Dr. Groat made him as comfortable as possible and he was taken to the hospital at St. Albans on the afternoon train. Mr. Lancer formerly worked in the station here and made many friends.

## DIED IN RUTLAND.

Rutland, Jan. 25.—Miss Minnie L. Stone, formerly of Montpelier, died of pneumonia to-day at the home of her father, Rev. E. B. Stone, in this city. The burial will be in Montpelier.

STEAMER CO'S  
SHOPS BURNChamplain Transportation Co.  
the Loser

## IN FIRE EARLY TO-DAY

Property Located at Shelburne Harbor,  
a Few Miles from Burlington, Was  
Wiped Out, But Loss Is  
Well Insured.

Burlington, Jan. 25.—The machine-shop and the paintshop of the Champlain Transportation company, which were located at Shelburne harbor, a few miles from this city, were destroyed by fire this morning. The flames were discovered at an early hour, presumably having broken out in the saw-mill of the company. The loss is well insured.

The loss is estimated at from \$12,000 to \$15,000. The company will rebuild. The remainder of the plant, together with the steamers Vermont and Ticonderoga, were saved after hard work by a bucket brigade of the employees of the company, assisted by Shelburne people.

TAKE BURLINGTON MEN  
ON LOTTERY CHARGEAlleged That William Grosvenor and  
Edward Proulx Were Then Re-  
leased on \$100 Bail Yester-  
day.

Burlington, Jan. 25.—William Grosvenor and Edward Proulx were arrested before Justice Duberville yesterday, charged with conducting a lottery. The men were released on bail of \$100 each and will be brought before the court at a later date.

The men have been doing business in this city and Winslow for about ten weeks under the name of the Western Supply company of Cincinnati, O. They have been selling articles and collecting 25 cents a week as part payment, the scheme being that out of the persons was to receive a prize of \$10.

A year ago the men did business in this city under the name of the Western New York Publication and Supply company on 131 Genesee street, Utica, N. Y. Complaint has been made that many people who paid money to the latter company have not received a prize. One woman claimed she paid \$8.50 and could not collect anything from the company.

## MANUFACTURERS' MEETING.

Has Been Arranged to Be Held To-mor-  
row Afternoon.

The last twenty-four hours have seen but little done towards securing a settlement of the granite troubles in Barre, although the committee representing the manufacturers has been holding a meeting of the manufacturers' association has been called for to-morrow afternoon, when it is expected the conference committee will report on the propositions it has received from the different branches.

## NOT BUYING LUXURIES.

Simply the Necessities of Life for the  
Needy Cases in Barre.

Acknowledgment is here made of the receipt of the following: William Rodgers, west hill, donated several bushels of potatoes and several bushels of turnips for the needy members of the lumpers, boxers and derrickmen's union. The Pavilion theatre management generously donated 20 per cent. of its receipts of last evening to the relief fund. The Dramatic theatre management has offered to turn 25 per cent. of its receipts over to the fund for this evening, Wednesday.

The Whiteside-Strass stock company, which is playing to full houses in the opera house this week, has also made the generous proposal of donating, along with the proceeds of the performance, 20 per cent. of the performance this evening, which is expected to amount to a considerable sum of money. This will be used for the purpose of supplying the most needy cases with food, warmth or any such necessities of life, not with luxuries. James Mutch, sec. C. L. U.

## CHILD FELL DOWN STAIRS.

Struck Her Face on the Edge of Tin Box  
and Was Lacerated.

The young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Mai met with a serious accident last evening by falling down stairs at her home on Fox street and striking her face on the edge of a tin box. Her nose was badly lacerated by the sharp edge of the box and one eye was cut so badly that it was feared thought that the sight had been injured. Dr. E. G. Child was called to attend the child and though the eye was badly injured he did not think that the sight is lost.

## MONTPELIER STORE SOLD.

McKen Business Purchased by Frank  
W. Mitchell of Haverhill.

The McKen dry goods store in Montpelier has been purchased by Frank W. Mitchell of Haverhill, Mass., who took possession yesterday. Mr. Mitchell has been in the dry goods business for 22 years, being a member of the firm of Mitchell & company of Haverhill. Besides being a prominent business man he has been prominent in municipal and state politics, having been chairman of the Republican city committee.

Among arrivals at the City hotel last evening and to-day were Y. R. Carpenter, New York; P. F. Donovan, Burlington; R. B. May, Essex Junction; A. D. Wright, E. B. Bagley, W. J. Thomas, C. W. Whamond, J. J. Smith, Boston.

BURNS CLUB HOLDS  
BURNS ANNIVERSARYOne of the Most Pleasant Celebrations  
in the Many Conducted by This  
Organization.

The 151st anniversary of Robert Burns, the Scottish poet, was observed by the Burns club of Barre last evening with a banquet and dancing in Woodmen's hall, according to its annual custom for more than a score of years; and of all the anniversary celebrations last evening's was the equal of any in the pleasure it gave to all who had the privilege of attending. While each year brings some new faces to the gathering, there are still a goodly number who were among the original membership and not a few more who have been members for at least ten years, so that all these gatherings are in the nature of an annual reunion.

It was Edward Cheeser's turn to be the presiding officer this year, and he did the honors very acceptably from the time Piper James Edwards struck up the air for the opening Scotch reel until the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" late into the night; and from the time he welcomed the club to the banquet table until midnight there was an uninterrupted flow of song, toast and recitation. The banquet, as usual, was prepared by Mrs. John Malden and was served by the ladies of the club.

The program as carried out was as follows: Song, "There Was a Lad Was Born in Kyle," Burns club; quartet, Misses McDonald and Anderson, Messrs. Anderson and Ingles; toast to Burns, responded to by James Rae; song, "The Cottage Where Burns Was Born," James Booth; song, "Auld Lang Syne," Burns club; song, "The Banks of the Doon," James Anderson; recitation, "Ode to a Haggis," Alex. M. Smith; song, "Where's Wallace's Bleed," Wm. Brown; toast, "America," responded to by James Mackay; song, "Star Spangled Banner," Robt. Ingles and Miss Anderson; toast, "The Ladies," responded to by Wm. Daguid; dances in costume, Miss Grace Barclay.

Following the regular program, there was dancing to music by the Burns club orchestra until the wee sma' hours.

## ONLY DEFENDED HIMSELF.

Declared Jury Which Tried Peter Ber-  
tram for Poisoning Joseph Jacques.

The jury in the case of Peter Bertram, charged with breach of the peace for an alleged assault on Joseph Jacques, which was tried in city court yesterday afternoon, brought in a verdict of not guilty and the respondent was discharged. The jury which was out about 20 minutes in reaching its decision was comprised of A. S. Jones, Charles Oliver, William L. Stone, Alexander Cowie, William Scott and Robert Knox. The scene of the alleged assault was on River street last Friday evening when, according to Bertram's testimony on the stand, he had some words with Jacques, who was arrested at the same time as Bertram, was not present, as the grand juror found out that DeForge was only a witness of the trouble and did not engage in it.

## CLAN BURIAL SERVICE.

Performed Over Grave of John Watt in  
Hope Cemetery.

The funeral services of John Watt were held at two o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Congregational church, Rev. J. D. MacKenzie, pastor of the First Presbyterian church officiating. Two duets were sung during the services by Miss Emma Phillips and William Ingles. There were delegates present from Clan Gordon, Order of Scottish Clans, the Foresters of America, Order of Owls, Burns club and the employees of Barclay Brothers' granite plant, where Mr. Watt was employed for many years. The bearers were William Barclay, George Booth, William Nicoll, David W. Faulkner, James Sloan and George Mathieson. There were many floral tributes including set pieces from Clan Gordon, Order of Owls, William Barclay and the employees of Barclay Brothers. The remains were interred in Hope cemetery, the procession being headed by the grave yard, a number of Clansmen in costume. The clan burial service was used at the grave.

## MRS. AURELIA MAYOTT.

Death of Woman Who Had Resided in  
Barre Three Years.

Mrs. Aurelia Mayott died at 12 o'clock last night at her home 25 Prospect street after a three month's illness with asthma and heart trouble. The deceased was 74 years of age and was born in Canada. She had resided in Barre about three years. She leaves to mourn her loss six children, Hiram Bessett of this city, Fred Bessett of Palmer, Mass., William Bessett in Canada, Mrs. William Drury of Williamstown, Joseph Bessett of Washington and Mrs. George Leonard of Canada. She also leaves a sister, Mrs. Sophia Brooks of Palmer, Mass. The funeral will be held from St. Monica's church Friday morning at 7 o'clock and the body will be taken on the 8:25 Central Vermont train to Palmer, Mass., for interment.

## SOME YOUNG THERE, TOO.

At "Old Folks Ball" in East Montpelier  
Last Night.

The annual "old folks ball" at the village hall in East Montpelier last evening continued to past reputation for success and pleasure for the large crowd, which always attends. Though not so large as some years, the attendance last evening numbered 117 couples. The excellent music for the occasion was furnished by Gilbertson's orchestra of six pieces. The dancing was concluded at four o'clock this morning.

The Vermont Telephone company has installed a pay station booth at the City hotel.

BARRE'S YEAR  
PROGRESSIVESome Marked Public Enter-  
prises Were Started

## BONDED DEBT REDUCED

Still Further Cut in Tax Rate Is Pro-  
posed for 1910—Mayor Robins  
Presents His Third Success-  
ive Message.

Mayor John Robins presented his third annual message to the board of aldermen last night; the finance committee furnished its budget for the year 1910; the school treasurer, the city treasurer and the directors of the French library reported. Besides these reports, a small amount of routine work was done.

In reviewing the past year, Mayor Robins deplores the "unfortunate stoppage of work" in the granite industry and expresses the hope that when the present difficulty is settled it will be the last for many years.

He reports that permanent street work was stopped by a difference of opinion as to what kind of street should be laid; but he hopes the work will be steadily pushed this year. He favors setting aside a water department sinking fund of \$5,000 annually to accelerate the reduction of the water department debt, as the interest on the bonds makes a heavy drain on the city. The fire department is in good shape, he believes. The net cost of poor decreased, showing improvement of conditions. The report of the police shows "steady improvement" in the moral conditions. Mayor Robins thinks \$1,200 was well spent for public band concerts.

The work of changing the river, he says, ought to be carried out the present year, "the city taking such precautionary measures as will insure the work being carried out within certain limits as to the proportionate share of the expense, which shall be paid out of the public funds."

The schools have been maintained "on the same high standard of efficiency that has been characteristic of them in the past," and it should be possible under promised conditions to conduct the department on a reduced tax rate.

Mayor Robins reports that the city's bonded indebtedness has been reduced \$75,000 by the redemption of sewer bonds maturing July 1, but it nearly wiped out the sinking fund, there being now but \$75,000. He speaks for a renewed sinking fund.

He says that if the proposed budget is carried out, there should be a cash balance of \$25,000 at the close of the year, enabling the city to start the following year without borrowing money in anticipation of taxes. He also favors the setting aside of \$1,000 toward a soldiers' and sailors' monument.

In concluding his report, Mayor Robins said, "We have tried to have the affairs of the city carried out in a conservative and efficient manner during the year and in doing so we have had the hearty support of the board of aldermen, the heads of the various departments and the city officials, to all of whom I desire to express my thanks and appreciation for their faithful services."

The French library directors reported that they now have a total of 2,279 books, at a cost of \$3,153.37. There were added during the year 38 volumes. Of the French fund there now remains \$307.08.

According to the report of the school treasurer, the total receipts for the year were \$65,780.50, and the expenditures \$65,000.00, leaving a cash balance at the end of the year of \$13,870. The city treasurer's report is a recapitulation of the figures of the other departments.

## City's Financial Statement.

The annual report of the finance committee arranges a budget of \$274,881.84 for expenses during the year 1910, with an estimated income of \$297,006.70, leaving the latter on a tax levy of \$2.25, which is five cents less than last year. The committee, Alcorn Alexander, Thurston and Hoyt, state that the city had to meet unexpected expenditures during the past year, because the citizens voted to construct a storage reservoir and a new schoolhouse; also because an extra county tax of \$1,000 was demanded to help pay for repairs on the county courthouses.

In order to meet these extraordinary expenditures, the city had to increase its indebtedness by issuing notes to the amount of \$26,500, the balance of the money required being provided from unexpended appropriations intended for streets, sewers, sidewalks, etc., and the changing of the river. The cost of the reservoir and schoolhouse projects are ultimately to be refunded by bond issues, so that the city will be enabled to carry out its original intentions of last year, relating to changing the river and doing more permanent work on the streets.

"In making a comparison with the city's standing of a year ago," says the report further, "it will be seen that although the assets of the city have decreased \$36,029.79, our indebtedness has decreased \$48,700, and our real estate and personal property increased \$94,7